

Maquegua, and subsequently about Valdivia. All the Parrots I shot further south were *Henicognathus leptorhynchus*, but the natives said the smaller species occurred as well. They are properly called the "Catita," but the names of "Choroi" and "Loro" are also applied to them. The sexes are similar. The iris of this species is russet-brown. The natives eat these Parrots when they can get them.

Their habits are similar to those of *H. leptorhynchus*, and they utter the same discordant cries, and appear to be confined to the forests, feeding on similar trees.

50. *BOLBORHYNCHUS ORBIGNYI* (Bp.).

Bolborhynchus orbigny, Salvad. B. M. C. xx. p. 236.

Bolborhynchus orbignesi, Selater, P. Z. S. 1891, p. 135.

(Sacaya.)

These little Parrots occur in flocks at Sacaya, Yabricoya, and other localities in Tarapacá, from November to March.

They are called the "Lorito." They fed on the ground in the valley of Sacaya wherever the coarse Andean grasses grew, the seed of which they appear to relish. I observed them up to 11,000 feet. When on the wing, and in fact almost always, they keep up a good deal of chattering and screaming.

The sexes appear to be similar. The eye is black.

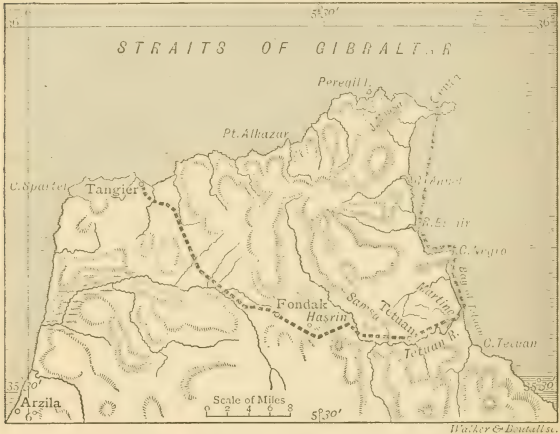
[To be continued.]

IV.—*Ornithological Notes from Marocco.*

By P. W. MUNN.

IN the beginning of May 1895 I left Gibraltar for Ceuta *viâ* Algeciras,—as no boat runs direct from Gibraltar to Ceuta,—and any anticipated difficulty with the Custom-house at Algeciras about my gun and ammunition would be evaded by taking them direct from one steamer to the other, without the knowledge of the authorities, and concealing them beneath the cushions in the cabin of the Ceuta boat. The usual uncomfortable passage across the Straits was made in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours and on nearing the port the gun-difficulty

again presented itself. Fortunately a respected and well-known (in Ceuta) Spanish boatman offered, for a consideration much less than the Customs duty, to convey them ashore in his baggage, and, on arranging to hire his boat for the voyage to Tetuan by sea the next day, volunteered to have them safely stowed on board before my departure next morning. So at 4.30 A.M., after spending the night at the



MAP OF PART OF MAROCCO.

Fonda in Ceuta, I embarked in a felucca, with a crew of four men and my baggage, to sail to Tetuan. On the way I landed for a short time at the mouth of the river Esmir, and out of a small flock of Ringed Plovers shot two males, but there were no signs of their breeding there. The marsh higher up the stream and running parallel with the sea-shore was now nearly dry; the little water that remained was covered with slimy green weed, in which a few Storks were wading, and the thick weeds and long grass round the edges were dry and forsaken by their usual feathered inhabitants. On a former visit in October there was a large sheet of water here, on and about which were quantities

of water-fowl—Teal, Wild Duck and Coots, Common and Buff-backed Herons, a Flamingo and a Crane; and a pair of Ospreys were to be seen plunging into the surface after their prey. The heat was at this season severe, and searching among the thick grass in the marsh, and on the sandy dunes nearer the sea, was trying. Moreover, the birds seemed to have sought shadier quarters, with the exception of a few Herring-Gulls from the neighbouring Cape Negro, which closely followed, and apparently commented on, my movements. A few small Waders were on the edge of the water, and a Black Kite (*Milvus migrans*) sat on the top of a clump of stunted tamarisk; while swarms of bright yellow locusts rose at every step from the sand in short flights. On re-embarking I sailed on to Cape Negro, and drifted slowly round it in the shade of the high cliffs. Herring-Gulls (*Larus cachinnans*) were sitting on their nests, and Shags (*Phalacrocorax graculus*) had full-grown young, some still in the nests, others, with the old birds, sitting on the isolated rocks beneath the cliffs, only gliding off into the water when the rock was struck with an oar—so tame were they; nor would the Gulls take flight unless closely approached.

Large flocks of Rock-Pigeons (*Columba livia*) flew in and out of the caverns and fissures, and in a nest in a hole in one of the pillars of a natural arch standing out from the Cape a pair of Bonelli's Eagles had young, and I also saw a Raven (*Corvus tingitanus*) fly into its nest, with young, in a fissure. The boatmen were highly amused in trying to identify the various birds seen by means of Saunders's Manual, which I had among my baggage, and in explaining to me the different Spanish names for them.

On rounding the Cape, the Bay of Tetuan was entered, with a stretch of white sandy beach to the north of the mouth of the Tetuan river, on which the wretched huts of a few Moorish fishermen were built; to the south stretched the Riff coast, with the curious little watch-towers conspicuous on every promontory. On the south bank of the river, reaching back to the foot of the mountains, are

extensive marshes, where there were troops of Buff-backed Herons (*Ardea bubulcus*), often attendant on the cattle grazing there. A few Terns were also seen here, but none procured. I reached the mouth of the river at 2.30 p.m., and we were able to sail up as far as the Martine Custom-house, where I had intended to stop, but it was full, so the baggage was unloaded on the shore and I rode on to Tetuan, and, on arriving there, put up at the house of one Nahon, in the Jewish quarter of the town. Partridges (*Caccabis petrosa*) and Goldfinches (*Carduelis elegans*) are frequently kept in confinement by the Moors, the former being probably used as call-birds; and Partridges' eggs are always for sale in the markets during the season, as delicacies.

I walked one day to a village called Samsa, some eight or ten miles north-west of Tetuan, at the head of a small valley running at right angles to the valley of the Tetuan river. The way first lay through narrow lanes among the luxurious vegetation of the gardens surrounding the town; here the only bird of any note seen was *Parus teneriffæ*: then across some hilly ground covered with the inevitable scrub palmetto and brilliant with innumerable flowers, where Crested Larks only abounded. Thence I proceeded along the side of a valley beneath steep cliffs, over which a few Vultures (*Gyps fulvus*) were sailing, and neared the village through gardens and luxurious vegetation and across running streams flowing down from the cliffs above. In some places there were walls of rock completely covered with curtains of moss and maidenhair fern. Hence some narrow lanes with trees meeting overhead and streams trickling along the pathway, at which Turtle-Doves (*Turtur communis*) were frequently disturbed, led me to the cultivated terraces above the village and on to the head of the valley. This was shut in by a high semicircle of cliffs, from the foot of which the hillside sloped away, covered with thick scrub-jungle and strewn with fallen boulders from the cliffs above. The white-washed mosque of the village and a few inconspicuous huts—which I had carefully avoided—were lying far below, near the stream, half hidden among the olives and fruit-trees of

their surrounding gardens. Both the Common and Lesser Kestrels were seen plentifully here, and a dusky Bulbul (*Pycnonotus barbatus*) in the gardens below.

Accompanied by three or four Moorish youths from the village and the soldier who had guided me from Tetuan, we thoroughly searched the cliffs for nests and found a Falcon's (*Falco punicus*) with two fully-grown young, and several empty Kestrels' from which the young had flown. In the caverns numerous Rock-Doves lived, and flew in and out in flocks when disturbed.

The midday meal was eaten in the shade of a huge fallen rock and shared with my companions, who especially appreciated the wine of the infidel, while the soldier made capital shooting among the Rock-Doves which kept flying in and out of the holes in the cliff behind. This cliff was of a most curious formation, about 20 feet high, and composed entirely of a mass of petrified leaves, wood, and other vegetable matter. It was honeycombed with holes of all sizes, the hollow remains of boughs, the bark of which had petrified while the interior had rotted away; and these holes were now occupied by Rock-Doves, Starlings (*Sturnus unicolor*), and Jackdaws, all busily engaged in nesting-operations. In a niche of the rock close above my head was a small nest like a Tree-Creeper's, with five white eggs speckled with red at the larger end, but I could not catch a glimpse of the birds belonging to it.

On another day I went by land to Cape Negro, intending to pass the night in the watch-tower on the summit. On the way there, across the palmetto-covered plain lying between Tetuan and the Cape, was a clump of ancient olive-trees growing in a marshy piece of jungle and tenanted by a colony of White Storks, the gigantic nests of which, two or three in a tree, could be seen from afar. Most of the nests now contained small young ones; in one, however, the young were fully grown, and another nest had not yet been laid in. Usually the old birds would not leave the nests until I had climbed up and scrambled over the edge. A pair of Ravens also had a nest in one of the trees; this and

the deserted nest of a large bird of prey were the only other nests I found in the clump. Storks in Marocco often build on the roofs of the frail huts of the Moors in the villages.

On nearing the sea we had a rough ride along the cliffs, through a dense pathless scrub of palmetto, myrtle, gum-cistus, holly, heather, and other scrubby plants, and in and out of innumerable rocky ravines, the sides of which were too steep to be ridden down and had to be negotiated on foot, and on hands as well occasionally. The tower was built on the highest point of the Cape, and was a square, whitewashed structure, entered by a rope-ladder let down from a window 20 feet from the ground. It was occupied by an old Moor, who appeared to subsist principally on Gulls' eggs and crustaceans—judging from the shells.

Besides the Gulls and Cormorants here, there were several Buzzards (*Buteo desertorum*) which were nesting in the cliffs, and in a marsh near were a small flock of Mallards (*Anas boschas*), the Ducks probably nesting among the scrub surrounding it, while a Marsh-Harrier was hunting along the opposite bank.

The evenings at Tetuan were usually spent on the roof of the house, watching the crowds of Swifts, both *Cypselus apus* and *C. murinus*, sweeping about the buildings, the Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) busily employed in family duties, and a pair of Swallows (*Hirundo rustica*) which flew in and out of the *patio*, where they had a nest with young. The river-bank, near the remains of the fine bridge which once spanned the stream, was also a favourite evening resort, and many of the beautiful Bee-eaters (*Merops apiaster*) were always to be seen here, perching on the solitary fig-trees among the corn. From the appearance of their beaks and tail-feathers they were nesting near. A single White-bellied Swift (*Cypselus melba*) I saw here one evening, along with a belated flight of the other species.

After a stay at Tetuan I left at 5.30 one morning on mulc-back for Tangier, which I reached at 4.30 in the afternoon after ten hours in the saddle, having made two short halts on the way—for breakfast at a foundak about fifteen

miles from Tetuan, and for lunch in a watercourse at midday. When passing down the valley below the village of Ain Hasrin, I saw a large Vulture (*Gyps fulvus*) wheeling along towards the high mountains ahead.

Among these mountains, near the fondak, we encountered heavy squalls of rain, which drenched us all and transformed the track into a rushing stream; but the sun came out when we reached a lower elevation and quickly dried our clothes. In the fondak, Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) were nesting in the baskets put up for the Pigeons beneath the arches round the courtyard, and on reaching the plains again on the Tangier side I saw Stonechats (*Pratincola rubicola*) and a few Grey Shrikes (*Lanius algeriensis*). Corn-Buntings (*Emberiza miliaria*) and Crested Larks (*Alauda cristata*) were to be seen on every side. Among the oleanders in the water-courses nearer Tangier, *Aëdon galactodes* was plentiful and not at all shy.

The following is a list of the principal birds noted during this and a preceding visit to the country in autumn:—

- Blackbird (*Turdus merula*). Tetuan in October.
- Stonechat (*Pratincola rubicola*). Tangier in May.
- Rufous Warbler (*Aëdon galactodes*). Tangier in May.
- White-vented Bulbul (*Pycnonotus barbatus*). Tetuan in May.
- Ultramarine Tit (*Parus teneriffæ*). Tetuan in May.
- Spotless Starling (*Sturnus unicolor*). Tetuan in May.
- Chough (*Pyrrhocorax graculus*). Tetuan in October.
- Jackdaw (*Corvus monedula*). Tetuan in May.
- Raven (*Corvus tingitanus*). Tangier and Tetuan in May and October.
- Algerian Grey Shrike (*Lanius algeriensis*). Tangier in May and October.
- Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*). Tetuan in May and October.
- Goldfinch (*Carduelis elegans*). Tangier and Tetuan in October.
- Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*). Tetuan in May.
- Corn-Bunting (*Emberiza miliaria*). Tangier in May.
- Crested Lark (*Alauda cristata*). Tangier and Tetuan in May and October.
- Swift (*Cypselus apus*). Tetuan in May.
- Mouse-coloured Swift (*Cypselus murinus*). Tetuan in May.
- White-bellied Swift (*Cypselus melba*). Tetuan in May.
- Bee-eater (*Merops apiaster*). Tetuan in May.
- Little Owl (*Athene noctua*). Tetuan in October.
- Griffon Vulture (*Gyps fulvus*). Tetuan in May.

- Marsh-Harrier (*Circus aruginosus*). Tetuan in May.
 Rufous Buzzard (*Buteo desertorum*). Tangier and Tetuan in May and October.
 Bonelli's Eagle (*Nisaetus fasciatus*). Cape Negro in May.
 Black Kite (*Milvus migrans*). Esmir and Cape Negro in May.
 African Peregrine (*Falco punicus*). Tetuan in May.
 Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*). Tetuan in May.
 Lesser Kestrel (*Falco cenchris*). Tetuan in May.
 Osprey (*Pandion haliaëtus*). Esmir in October.
 Shag (*Phalacrocorax graculus*). Cape Negro in May.
 Heron (*Ardea cinerea*). Esmir in October.
 Buff-backed Heron (*Ardea bubulcus*). Tetuan in May and October.
 White Stork (*Ciconia alba*). Tangier and Tetuan in May.
 Flamingo (*Phaenicopterus roseus*). Esmir in October.
 Wild Duck (*Anas boschas*). Tetuan in May and October.
 Teal (*Querquedula crecca*). Esmir in October.
 Rock-Dove (*Columba livia*). Tetuan and Cape Negro in May.
 Turtle-Dove (*Turtur communis*). Tetuan in May.
 Barbary Partridge (*Caccabis petrosa*). Tangier and Tetuan in May and October.
 Coot (*Fulica atra*). Esmir in October.
 Crane (*Grus communis*). Esmir in October.
 Ringed Plover (*Ægialitis hiaticula*). Esmir in May.
 Herring-Gull (*Larus cachinnans*). Cape Negro in May.

V.—On the Genus *Psittacella*. By ERNST HARTERT.

(Plate III.)

IN 1891, when writing the 20th volume of the Catalogue of Birds, Count Salvadori recognized three different species of the genus *Psittacella*, Schleg., hitherto known only from New Guinea. At present the genus is enlarged by one more species, described quite recently by Mr. Rothschild, and we can, in my opinion, distinguish as a slightly differentiated subspecies *Psittacella brehmi pallida* of A. B. Meyer. A revised "key" to the species of this genus is therefore necessary, which I give as follows:—

1. } Wing more than 100 mm. : 2.
- } Wing less than 100 mm. : 7.
2. } Breast with crescentic black bars : 3.
- } Breast without black bars : 5.